# APPARATUS TO OFFLOAD AND ACCELERATE PICO CODE PROCESSING RUNNING IN A STORAGE PROCESSOR

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and method offloads processing from a networking processor operating in a storage environment. Three main functions are offloaded: semaphore processing, frame order processing, and timer processing. Offloading of semaphore processing enables ordered access to semaphores. Offloading of frame order processing enables the network processor to quickly transmit an incoming frame if the incoming frame is the next one in the frame order. Offloading of timer processing enables background checking of the timer list, which improves operational efficiency.

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